

Remarks

The Examiner is thanked for the early indication of allowable subject matter in claim 11.

Reconsideration of this Application is respectfully requested.

Claim 6 is sought to be amended. Claims 1-5 and 7-12 are sought to be cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the cancelled or broader claims in a continuation application. Claims 13-18 are sought to be added. Claims 6 and 13-18 are pending in the application, with 1 and 13 being the independent claims. No new matter has been entered by any amendments.

Based on the above amendments and following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all outstanding objections and rejections and that they be withdrawn.

Objections to the Specification

The Examiner has objected to the specification for typographical errors in paragraph [0009]. This paragraph has been amended per the suggestions of the Examiner. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw these objections.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a)

Claims 6, 7, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,707,534 to Bjorklund et al. ("Bjorklund").

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,624,880 to Sandstrom et al. ("Sandstrom").

Claims 1, 2, 5-7, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) ("103") as being unpatentable over Sandstrom in view of Bjorklund.

Claims 2, 3, and 12 were rejected under 103 as being unpatentable over Bjorklund in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,416,908 to Klosner et al. ("Klosner").

Claims 3, 4, 8, and 9 were rejected under 103 as being unpatentable over Sandstrom in view of Klosner.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

Applicants believe the rejection of claims 1-5, 7-10, and 12 should be considered moot based on the canceling of these claims. Although Applicants disagree with these rejections, Applicants have cancelled these claims in order to expedite prosecution of the remaining claims.

Although Applicants disagree with the rejections, Applicants have amended claim 6 to include the allowable subject matter from claim 11 in order to expedite prosecution of the remaining claims. Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the rejections of claim 6.

New Claims 13-28

New Claim 13 recites at least:

13. (New) A system, comprising:

...
a spatial light modulator that patterns the beam, the spatial light modulator including,
a non-linear substrate, and
an array of individually controllable elements coupled to the non-linear substrate;
a projection system ...;
a directing device ...; and
a focusing optical element that focuses the beam from the directing device onto the spatial light modulator, wherein a radius of the focusing element is substantially smaller than a radius of the spatial light modulator.

None of the above-discussed patents, taken alone or in combination, teach or suggest at least these features of claim 13. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request the Examiner find claim 13 allowable. Also, at least based on their dependency on claim 13, which is believed to be patentable over the cited art, claims 14-18 should be found allowable over the applied patents.

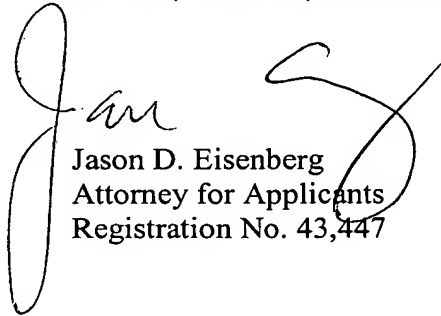
Conclusion

All of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicants therefore respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider all presently outstanding rejections and that they be withdrawn. Applicants believe that a full and complete reply has been made to the outstanding Office Action and, as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. If the Examiner believes, for any reason, that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number provided.

Prompt and favorable consideration of this Amendment and Reply is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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